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(Rev. 08-28-2000)

#46

SECRET/NOFORN/ORCON

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: ROUTINE **Date:** 09/04/2002

To: Los Angeles

From: Los Angeles
NSD-4
Contact: SA [redacted] b6 b7C

Approved By: [redacted] b1

Drafted By: [redacted]:ae

(S) **Case ID #:** (S/NF/OC) [redacted]

Title: (S/NF/OC) FAHAD ALTHUMAIRY (NON-USPER)
(U) IT - OTHER (UBL/AL-QAEDA)

Synopsis: (S/NF/OC) [redacted]

(S) [redacted]

(S) (S/NF/OC) **Classified By:** G-3
Declassify On: X-1

(S) [redacted]

(U) **Administrative:** (S/NF/OC) Attached with this communication, is a copy of a letter from FBIHQ, approved by AD D'Amuro dated 08/26/2002, to the Department of State requesting a "No Foreign Policy Objection" (NFPO) statement regarding captioned subject. The NFPO was approved on 09/03/2002.

Reference(s): 265A-NY-280350-302 Serial 55234
265A-NY-280350-302 Serial 55241
265A-NY-280350-302 Serial 55240
265A-NY-280350-302 Serial 69527
265A-NY-280350-302 Serial 99427
265A-NY-280350-302 Serial 10044
265A-NY-280350-SD Serial 5630

DATE: 01-16-2007
CLASSIFIED BY 60324 AUC/BAW/CPB/YMW
REASON: 1.4 (C)
DECLASSIFY ON: 01-16-2032

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(S) To: Los Angeles From: Los Angeles
Re: (S/NF/OC) [redacted] 09/04/2002

Details: (S/NF/OC) [redacted]

(S) [redacted]

(S) [redacted]

(U) (S/NF) During October 2001, [redacted] was interviewed several times by Boston, Portland Maine RA agents, San Diego agents, and New York agents. [redacted] b1 b6 b7C b3

(U) (S/NF/OC) During the interviews, it was learned that [redacted] knew [redacted] subject of San Diego investigation, during late 1999 and early 2000. [redacted] indicated he once took a trip to Los Angeles with [redacted] during this time frame. They went to the Saudi Arabian consulate in Los Angeles and then to a small Mediterranean café/restaurant in the Culver City area. It was at this restaurant that [redacted] met American Airline Flight #77 hijacker's Nawaf Alhazmi and Khalid Al-Mihdhar.

(U) (S/NF/OC) After this meeting (exact date unknown), the hijackers moved to San Diego. [redacted] played a major role in getting them established in the community. This included finding them an apartment and providing them with financial assistance. As receiving offices are aware, [redacted] is being actively investigated, by San Diego, for his role of supporting the hijackers. He is currently in England. He was detained and questioned in September related to the terrorist attacks, but had to be released.

(U) (S/NF/OC) Investigators brought [redacted] to the Saudi Arabian Consulate in Los Angeles. [redacted] indicated that [redacted] dealt with a representative of the Consulate described as a Middle Eastern male, approximately 5'8" in height, in his 40s, with a black/grey beard down to his chest, wearing a suit. It appeared obvious [redacted] that [redacted] and the Saudi official knew each other and had met before. Their conversation was in Arabic however, and [redacted] did not comprehend it. [redacted] and this man then went behind closed doors to take care of their "business". They spend up to one hour at the Consulate.

(U) (S/NF/OC) After leaving the consulate, [redacted] suggested that he and [redacted] travel to a local restaurant to have

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lunch. The two first entered the Mediterranean Café. [redacted] had informed [redacted] that he and his family had dined at this restaurant before. [redacted] and [redacted] entered the Mediterranean Café, they were informed that the Mediterranean Café did not serve food. [redacted] asked if this was the Mediterranean Café on Venice Blvd. [redacted] was informed that another Mediterranean restaurant was located a few yards away. [redacted] and [redacted] walked a short distance west on Venice Boulevard and into the MEDITERRANEAN GOURMET Restaurant, located at 10863 Venice Boulevard, phone number (310)842-8291.

(U) ~~(S~~/NF/OC) While at the MEDITERRANEAN GOURMET, [redacted] and [redacted] met with hijackers Al-Mihdhar and Alhazmi. It is unknown at this time whether this meeting between [redacted] and the hijackers, in LA, was a planned event or a "chance meeting." The meeting is believed to have occurred on 02/01/2000, based on visa application activity and toll record analysis. San Diego investigation has indicated that [redacted] has extensive ties to the Saudi government. He was being supported in the U.S. with a stipend from his employer, the Saudi Arabian Civil Air Administration, and/or the Saudi government. There is speculation that [redacted] could be a Saudi intelligence officer based on numerous factors and circumstances. Therefore, there remains the possibility that the meeting was planned or [redacted] was directed by someone at the Saudi Consulate to meet the two hijackers at the restaurant in LA.

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(U) ~~(S~~/NF/OC) During the conversation, [redacted] learned via [redacted] that Al-Hazmi and Al-Mihdhar had an apartment in LA and have only been there and in the United States for a short time. They stated that they did not like Los Angeles. They were having a difficult time and didn't know anyone. Al-Hazmi and Al-Mihdhar were in the U.S. to learn English. [redacted] invited them to come to San Diego and check it out. [redacted] told them they would probably like it in San Diego. Al-Hazmi and Al-Mihdhar indicated they were interested. [redacted] gave his phone number to Al-Hazmi. It is also possible that [redacted] got their phone number as well, but [redacted] was unsure. [redacted] and [redacted] left the restaurant/café and went to the Culver City Mosque, also know as the King Fahad Mosque.

(U) ~~(S~~/NF/OC) The next time [redacted] met Al-Hazmi and Al-Mihdhar was when they were in the Parkwood Apartments on Mt. Ada Road in San Diego. This was at the welcome/housewarming party [redacted] had thrown for the hijackers. It was a matter of a few weeks to a month between the meeting at the LA restaurant and the time of the welcoming party for Al-Hazmi and Al-Mihdhar. During this interim period, [redacted] did mention that he had been in contact with the

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two men they met at the restaurant in LA. [redacted] also told [redacted] that they even came down to visit San Diego one time and liked it.

(U) (S/NF/OC) [redacted] stated that he met and became acquainted with Nawaf Alhazmi and Khalid Almihdhar in 1999, after an introduction by [redacted] Nawaf told [redacted] that they, Nawaf and Khalid, had arrived in Los Angeles via United Airlines into Los Angeles Airport. [redacted] was unaware of the location they stayed in Los Angeles or how they arrived in San Diego. [redacted] brought Nawaf and Khalid to an Islamic Mosque located in Lemon Grove, CA, to make the introduction [redacted] asked [redacted] to become acquainted with Nawaf and Khalid, acclimate them to the area and assist in any way in their affairs. [redacted] noted that Nawaf told him not to tell anyone that they had taken an excursion trip to Malaysia after arriving in Bangkok. [redacted] knew that the hijackers traveled in their Toyota to Los Angeles, however, he did not know the purpose of the trip or the date.

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(U) (S/NF/OC) In approximately the summer on 2000, Mohdar traveled with Nawaf in the Toyota to take Khalid to the LAX Airport in Los Angeles, CA. Khalid was returning to Saudi Arabia to be with his wife and newborn female child. Khalid traveled commercial airlines from LAX on Lufthansa Airline. After dropping off Khalid at the airport, Mohdar and Nawaf visited the King Fahad Mosque in Culver City, CA. They returned to San Diego the same day. Nawaf had a gifted voice for leading the prayer at the residence and at the Mosque. FBI Los Angeles Comment: Los Angeles has no explanation as to why Khalid Al-Mihdhar had to travel from San Diego to Los Angeles in order to fly to Saudi Arabia.

FBI Los Angeles Investigative Results:

(S/NF/OC) Los Angeles has determined that [redacted] may be a potential contact of the hijackers and [redacted] in Los Angeles. [redacted] is an administrative officer at the Saudi Consulate in Los Angeles and may have diplomatic status. [redacted] is also believed to be one of the Imams at the King Fahad mosque. [redacted] also fits the description, as provided [redacted] of the individual that [redacted] met at the Saudi consulate prior to [redacted] "chance" meeting with the hijackers at the restaurant.

(S/NF/OC) [redacted]

(S)

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(S) [redacted]

(U) ~~(S~~/NF/OC) A review of [redacted] home telephone records and cellular telephone records has revealed that [redacted] had (16) telephonic contacts with [redacted] In addition, [redacted] had (24) telephonic contacts with the Saudi Arabian Consulate in Los Angeles prior to the events of 09/11/2001.

(U) ~~(S~~/NF/OC) Various reliable sources of the Los Angeles have reported that [redacted] returned to Saudi Arabia in mid-August 2001 and did not return to Los Angeles until 12/24/2001. Los Angeles notes that [redacted] also left the United States, for England, prior to the events of 09/11/2001. Sources have also reported that [redacted] sermons at the King Fahad mosque have a militant, anti-West tone to them. [redacted] is also reported to be anti-United States and Israel. b2 b7D b6 b7C

(U) ~~(S~~/NF/OC) According to Mohdar, the hijackers and Mohdar took a trip to Los Angeles in order for Khalid Al-Mihdhar to return to Saudi Arabia for the birth of his daughter. Mohdar stated that they stayed at a hotel close to the mosque. Mohdar also reported that the hijackers met several people a the King Fahad mosque including a person identified as "Khallam". According to Mohdar, Khallam visited the hijackers at the hotel that evening. Upon Khallam's arrival, the hijackers asked Mohdar to wait outside. FBI investigation has determined that Mohdar and the hijackers stayed at Deno's Motel on 06/09/2000. Information from FBI New York has revealed that on 12/31/1999, SAID SALEH BIN ATTASH, aka "KHALLAD" was a passenger from Bangkok to Los Angeles. Bin Attash is the alleged mastermind behind the bombing of USS Cole in Aden, Yemen. New York indicated that they had no record of Bin Attash actually entering the United States from that flight. New York opined that certain diplomatic arrangements exist at various airports which allow diplomats to meet incoming foreign nationals at the baggage carousels. New York opined that it may have been possible that someone from the Saudi Consulate in Los Angeles may have met Khallad and escorted him through customs. Los Angeles can not confirm whether "Khallad" and "Khallam" are identical.

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(S)

(U) (S/NF/OC) On 03/07/2002, Los Angeles interviewed [redacted] while in INS custody. [redacted] is a Tunisian national that regularly attended the King Fahad Mosque.

(U) (S/NF/OC) [redacted] reported that he had heard that two Saudi Arabian men had arrived at LAX and were met by a person unknown to [redacted]. This unknown person then took the two Saudis to an apartment complex that had already been rented for them. [redacted] stated he could not remember the address, but that it was a large white building located on Sepulveda Blvd. between Venice Blvd. and Palm St. FBI Los Angeles Comment: This is the apartment complex whose records were recently search by Los Angeles.

(U) (S/NF/OC) One or two days after the arrival of the Saudis, [redacted] was at the King Fahad Mosque. While at the mosque [redacted] introduced [redacted] to the two Saudis and asked [redacted] if he could help them during their time in Los Angeles because they did not speak English. [redacted] agreed and gave the Saudis his taxi cab business card. b1 b6 b7C b7D

(U) (S/NF/OC) The next day the Saudis called [redacted] and asked him to pick them up and drive them around Los Angeles. [redacted] picked them up at their apartment complex and then drove them around. They then ate at the Mediterranean Restaurant located on Venice Blvd. At the end of the day [redacted] took them back to their apartment complex.

(U) (S/NF/OC) Two to three days later the Saudis called [redacted] again. This time they wanted to go to Sea world in San Diego. [redacted] agreed and picked them up at their apartment where he was given $100 and told he would get the remainder after the trip. [redacted] stated they drove straight to San Diego and the only stop that they made was at a San Diego gas station. [redacted] could not remember the gas stations location in San Diego. One or two days after they returned to Los Angeles [redacted] called them to receive the remainder of his money. The Saudis told him that [redacted] would give him the rest of the money.

(U) (S/NF/OC) When asked by investigators who else knew about the two Saudis, [redacted] replied that no one at the Kind Fahad Mosque knew about them and that he was told by [redacted] to keep the presence of the two Saudis to himself. [redacted] did say that the Saudi Consulate knew about the two Saudis because it was the consulate that told [redacted] to take care of the Saudis. [redacted] was told by [redacted] that the Saudis were here to see their sick father who was in a local

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hospital. [redacted] said that the Saudis stayed in Los Angeles for approximately one month and then they returned to Saudi Arabia. When asked if [redacted] knew for a fact that they returned to Saudi Arabia he replied no and that he was just told that they had left Los Angeles.

(U) ~~(S~~/NF/OC) [redacted] could not remember the Saudis names, but remembered one was approximately twenty one years old and the other was approximately twenty-five years old. [redacted] stated over and over that the two Saudis came to Los Angeles prior to 09/11/2001.

(U) ~~(S~~/NF/OC) During the interview, [redacted] was shown photographs of all the hijackers and numerous photographs of unrelated individuals. [redacted] looked at all the photographs carefully and placed all the photographs in a pile on the left side of the desk. When he viewed the photographs of Al-Mihdhar and Al-Hazmi, he placed the photographs on the right side of the desk. Once he had gone through all the photographs, he mixed the photographs and stated that he did not recognize anyone from the photos. FBI Los Angeles is of the opinion that [redacted] may have been less than truthful with the investigators regarding his recognition of anyon from the photographs. b1 b6 b7C b7D

(U) ~~(S~~/NF/OC) As stated earlier, Los Angeles conducted a search of lease/rental records of the apartment complex that was shown to the investigators [redacted]. The search revealed that [redacted] and the King Fahad Mosque had an extensive rental history with the apartment complex. Lease records indicated that [redacted] would customarily rent furnished apartments for a 4-6 week period. Lease records also indicated that [redacted] would not personally reside in the apartments rented at the complex. This apartment complex is within ½ mile of the Mediterranean restaurant where Al-Bayoumi and [redacted] met the hijackers. The apartment is withing 3/4 mile of the King Fahad mosque and is within one mile from Deno's motel where the hijackers and [redacted] had stayed on 06/09/2000. Additionally, a check of all other hotels in the vicinity of the King Fahad Mosque and Deno's Motel revealed that [redacted] has an extensive rental history with Travellodge Hotel and Sunburst Motel. The hotel searches also revealed that [redacted] has extensive rental history at the Travellodge Hotel and the Half Moon Motel. All these motels/hotels are adjacent to Deno's motel and within ½ mile of the apartment complex.

(S/NF/OC) [redacted]

(S) [redacted]

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